ABSTRACT

A method and system for processing and aggregating medical information for analysis, including distributing the initial data acquisition among multiple medical practices, transferring data over the Internet, storing data in a centralized database, and

5 providing Internet-based applications and services using the data—aggregated or individually—to be used in the care or management of patients. Examples of such applications include, but are not limited to, using the database to train and re-educate computer-assisted diagnosis and detection software and using the database like a textbook to compare abnormalities observed in an present patient to those of other

10 patients with confirmed diagnoses. The method and system provides improvements in the practice of medicine because it delivers real-time decision support to physicians and uses the most current information available in so doing. By analyzing a current patient's medical information and comparing it against similar data in a central database, the physician can receive an objective computerized "second opinion," and every new patient

15 gives the database an additional medical file by which the database can grow in breadth.

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